WELLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT.

Area in Acres	33,906
Population	6,277
Occupation	Chiefly Agricultural.

Woollen Manufactures - at Wellington and Wiveliscombe;

Brickyards ... at Poole.

Geology - Upper part of New Red Sand Stone series, with thin beds of clay here and there.

M I L V E R T O N,

Feb. 5th, 1908.

To the Wellington Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to your Council my Annual Report for the year 1907.

From a statistical point of view, it cannot perhaps be said to have been a good year, for though the Birth Rate is somewhat above the average, the general Death Rate and the rate of Infant Mortality is considerably higher than the averages of the last ten years, though, as I have pointed out on a previous occasion, statistics derived from such a small area are often influenced by accidental circumstances, and are of little value.

Births.

During the year, 155 births have taken place in the district, giving an annual Birth Rate of 24·6 per 1,000, 40 more than in the previous year 1906, and exceeding the average Birth Rate of the district, which is 22·8 per 1,000.

Deaths.

94 deaths have occurred in the district throughout the year, giving an annual Death Rate of 14·9 per 1,000, the average Death Rate for the last 10 years being 13· per 1,000.

Infant Mortality.

During the year, 16 infants have died under one year of age, giving an Infant Death Rate of 103·2 per 1,000 births, or in other words, out of every 1,000 children that were born, 103·2 died before they had attained the age of one year, or a little over one death for ten births. The annual rate of Infant Mortality is not generally as high as this, the average Infant Death Rate for the last 10 years being 74·2 per 1,000

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births. This increased number of deaths cannot be attributed to any special cause or epidemic of disease, and must be put down to atmospheric or other influence over which we have no control.

Causes of Death.

Out of these ~~24~~ 94 deaths, one was due to Diphtheria and one to Diarrhoea, and these constitute all the deaths from zymotic, or what are sometimes called preventable diseases.

6 deaths were due to Phthisis;
7 ,, ,, ,, ,, Cancer;
16 ,, ,, ,, ,, Inflammatory disease of the chest;
11 ,, ,, ,, ,, Heart Disease;
4 ,, ,, ,, ,, Accidents.

The ages at death were these:-

16 under one year of age;
5 from 1 to 5 years;
3 from 5 to 15 years;
5 from 15 to 25 years;
22 from 25 to 65 years;
43 - 65 and upwards.

Prevalence of Infectious Disease.

Only six cases of Infectious disease have come under my notice during the year; those reported to me by the medical men in the district, and including those in my own practice. This is a particularly low record. There were fewer cases of infectious disease in our district during the year 1907 than in any year since the Notification Act came into operation.

Three of these infectious diseases were cases of Diphtheria, and one of them ended fatally. In this case, there was ample cause for the disease, which was, however, immediately rectified.

The only other case of infectious disease which calls for any comment was a case of Enteric Fever, which occurred at

Preston, in the parish of Milverton. The water which this patient (a boy of 14 years of age) drank, together with the rest of his family, was certainly polluted, and pronounced to be so by the Analyst of the County. The well was immediately closed, at any rate for drinking purposes, and every precaution taken to prevent the spread of the disease, private charity in lieu of a Fever Hospital, largely coming to our aid. The means adopted were successful, and no other case occurred. We have had a few imported cases, but this is the first case that has arisen in the Rural District of Wellington for a period of 12 years.

An epidemic of Measles visited many parishes in the district during the Summer months; for this cause it was found necessary to close for a short period the schools of Langford Budville, West Buckland, Nynehead, Sampford Arundel and Stawley. The disease was mild in character, and there was no death.

No case of Scarlet Fever has occurred in the district during the year - a rare occurrence.

Sewerage, Drainage and Excrement Disposal.

I am not aware of any special drainage operations that have been carried out by your Council during the past year.

Your Sanitary Inspector and I are still endeavouring to do away as far as possible with the old covered cesspit, and put some kind of earth closet in its place.

Frequent inspections have been made by your Inspector (whose report I have the pleasure to enclose) and by myself during the year, and all matters that could not be easily arranged by private treaty have been brought before the notice of your Council. About one hundred (to be accurate, I believe 104) nuisances have, in this way, been reported to your Council during the year 1907, and orders have been made thereon.

Home Workers.

The lists have been sent to me, which I regret to say are not always accurate, and an unnecessary journey is sometimes

entailed. There are at present, as far as I can learn, eight home workers in the district. I have personally inspected them, but in no instance was there anything to report or to take action upon.

Houses of the Working Classes.

Two cottages have been condemned by me as unfit for human habitation. Certificates have been granted during the year to seven new houses, and I have the pleasure to inform your Council that six new cottages are in progress of construction on a healthy site in the parish of Langford Budville.

Water Supply.

The Milverton water supply has held out well during the year. There was no deficiency, or at any rate none to be felt by the inhabitants of Milverton, in the Summer and Autumn. The water is of good quality, and abundant. It is now used by 191 households, two slaughter-houses and three stables.

The Blackmoor supply is, I believe, in every way satisfactory.

Fitzhead, a Village which, owing to its geological position has always been badly supplied with water, many wells running dry in the Summer and Autumn months, has been much benefited by a good supply brought to eight cottages in the Western portion of the Village. The work has been carried out most satisfactorily, at the expense of the owner of the property.

Factories, Workshops, etc.

Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses, Dairies and Slaughter-houses have been periodically inspected by your Sanitary Inspector, and frequently by myself. Owing to the insanitary condition of certain Dairies, your Council thought it advisable to issue a circular letter to the proprietors of all dairies and milk-shops, with special reference to cleanliness and sanitary precautions. There is, I fear, much room for improvement in the general sanitary condition and habits of dairies and

cowsheds. I trust that your circular may have a good effect. There has been very little to complain of in respect of factories and workshops, bakehouses and slaughter-houses, during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Charles Rancorp

Medical Officer of Health.

Inspector's Report.

Number of cases reported by me to the Council during 1907, upon which orders were issued, 62.

During Year.

6 new Cottages have been certified for;

1 new Vicarage House at Sampford built;

8 Cottages at Fitzhead have had an excellent supply of water brought in - Owner, Mr. Berry;

Water supply for cattle, to fields by Gas Works, carried out by Council;

Water Supply to 5 Cottages at Trace Bridge ordered, and work in progress.

I have made house to house inspections where necessary at villages and hamlets, and reported cases to the Council; and amongst them, in October, 3 cases at Preston, Milverton, where the owner, Mr. Joyce (a member of the Council), challenged the accuracy of those reports, and one of these his tenants, Thomas Wyatt, after demanding an apology, which was not given, issued a writ for libel against me, and is claiming £100 damages. Case is now pending, in King's Bench Division.

During the year, I have periodically inspected Dairies and Cowsheds, Bakehouses, Slaughter-houses and Workshops in the District, and generally I have found same in fair condition. In regard to Dairies, I made special mention of these in a report to the Council on June 13th, when a special circular letter was sent out by the Clerk to all vendors of milk, calling their attention to means of cleanliness in mode of milking, etc., and the cleanliness of yards and premises.

(Signed) Edward V. Richards,

Sanitary Inspector.

Jan. 27th, 1908.

To Dr. Randolph, M.O.H., W.R.D.C.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1907 and previous Years.

Name of District Wellington Rural

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.						
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1897.	6615	174	26.3	11	63.2	95	14.3					
1898.		141	21.3	10	70.9	89	13.4					
1899.		156	23.5	15	96.15	96	14.5					
1900.		158	23.8	11	69.6	83	12.5					
1901.	6244	150	23.8	14	113.3	92	14.6					
1902.		154	25	6	38.2	83	13.2					
1903.		134	21.3	9	67.1	70	11.1					
1904.		141	22.4	8	56.4	82	13.06					
1905.		143	22.7	14	97.9	83	12.5					
1906.		115	18.3	8	69.5	71	11.3					
Averages for years 1897-1906.		146.6	22.8	10.9	74.2	84.4	13					
1907.		155	24.6	16	103.2	94	14.9					

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water): 33906

At Census of 1901.

Total population at all ages: 6244

Number of inhabited houses: 1447

Average number of persons per house: 4.34

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I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
None	Taunton Hospital Cotford Asylum	None

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No

LE II.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1907 and previous years.

Name of District Wellington Rural District

F s.	1.				2.				3.				4.				5.				6.				7.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
..	6615	144	95	11																								
..		141	89	10																								
..		156	96	15																								
..		158	83	11																								
..	6244	150	92	14																								
..		154	83	6																								
..		134	70	9																								
..		141	82	8																								
..		143	83	14																								
..		115	71	8																								
		146·6	84·4	10·9																								
..		155	94	16																								

.—(*a*) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district: and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table need not be filled up.

(*b*) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")

(*c*) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(*d*) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.: thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b*, and *c* should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12, respectively, of Table I.: the gross total of the sub-columns *c* should agree with the total [illegible] in Table [illegible] the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

II.

1.

7.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1907.

Name of District Wellington Som Rural District

FIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CSES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							*** NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.							
	At all Ages.	At Ages† — Years.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.															Total cases removed to Hospital.
ɔox																						
ι																						
ɔria (including branous croup) ...	3		1		1	1																
·las	1						1															
fever																						
fever																						
fever	1			1																		
ng fever																						
ed fever																						
·al fever	1					1																
·...																						
lr	6		1	1	1	2	1															

ES.—The localities adopted for this table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

. State in space below the name of the isolation hospital, if any, to which residents in the district, suffering from infectious disease, are usually sent. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district. The name of the authority by whom the hospital is provided should also be given. Mark (W) the locality in which a workhouse is situated.

* This space may be used for record of other disease the notification (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

† These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

*** Column 8 should be filled up with the Totals of cases removed to Hospital, whether the District is divided into separate localities or consists of only one undivided area.

[. 192 *Isolation Hospital* None

(307PS)

III.

Name of District Wellington Rural

(See Notes at Back.)

Causes of Death. 1	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District. All ages. 2	Under 1 year. 3	1 and under 5. 4	5 and under 15. 5	15 and under 25 6	25 and under 65 7	65 and upwards. 8	Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District. 9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District. 16
Small-pox															
Measles															
Scarlet fever															
Whooping-cough ...															
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	1		1												
Croup	1		1												
Fever — Typhus ...															
Fever — Enteric ...															
Fever — Other continued															
Epidemic influenza ...	2	2													
Cholera															
Plague															
Diarrhœa. (*See* notes at back.)	1	1													
Enteritis. (*See* notes at back.)															
Puerperal fever. (*See* notes at back.)															
Erysipelas															
Other septic diseases...	3					3									
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis.)	6				2	3	1								
Other tubercular diseases.	1			1											
Cancer, malignant disease. (*See* notes at back.)	7					2	5								
Bronchitis															
Pneumonia	16	4	2	1		3	6								
Pleurisy															
Other diseases of Respiratory organs.															
Alcoholism / Cirrhosis of liver	1						1								
Venereal diseases ...															
Premature birth ...	2	2													
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1					1									
Heart diseases ...	11				1	4	6								
Accidents	4			1		2	1								
Suicides	2				1	1									
All other causes ...	35	7	1		1	3	23								
All causes ...	94	16	5	3	5	22	43								

NOTES TO TABLES IV. AND V.

(*a*) In Table IV., all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15, to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.

(*b*) *See* notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.

(*c*) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (*a*), to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.

(*d*) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

*(*e*) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhœa, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhœa, Choleraic diarrhœa, Cholera and Cholera Nostras.

In addition, and as regards deaths of children *under one year of age*, under the heading "Diarrhœa" in column 3 (Table IV.) are to be included all deaths classified as "Diarrhœal diseases" in Table V.

Under the heading of "Enteritis" in Table IV., are to be included only deaths *over one year of age* registered as due to Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, Gastric catarrh, Gastritis, and Gastro-intestinal catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, under the specific term "Diarrhœa." Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.

(*f*) Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms. Thus: Under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma, Malignant disease, Scirrhus, Epithelioma, Sarcoma, Villous tumour, and Papilloma of bladder, Rodent ulcer. Under "Puerperal Fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sapræmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri- and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.

(*g*) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icterus neonatorum, Navel hæmorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus.

(*h*) Under "Tuberculous Meningitis" are to be included deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.

(*i*) Under "Other Tuberculous Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.

(*j*) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., IV. and V., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

Charles Randolph *Medical Officer of Health.*

Date Feby 5th 1908.

* As regards infantile diarrhœa and Table V., it will suffice if Medical Officers of Health, who have already tabulated deaths of 1906 in accordance with the schedule of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health, enter all deaths under one year that they regard as due to diarrhœa under the single heading "Diarrhœa, all forms."

This having been done, it will be necessary that the entry against "Diarrhœa" in column 3 of Table IV. should tally with the sum of deaths under "Diarrhœa, all forms," entered in the final column of Table V.

Wellington Rural District.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1907.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

(See Notes at back of Table IV.)

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1–2 Weeks.	2–3 Weeks.	3–4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1–2 Months.	2–3 Months.	3–4 Months.	4–5 Months.	5–6 Months.	6–7 Months.	7–8 Months.	8–9 Months.	9–10 Months.	10–11 Months.	11–12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes. Certified																	
All Causes. Uncertified																	
i. Common Infectious Diseases. Small-pox																	
Chicken-pox																	
Measles																	
Scarlet Fever																	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)																	
Whooping Cough ...																	
ii. Diarrhœal Diseases. (See Notes to Table IV.) Diarrhœa, all forms ...																	
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis																	
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
iii. Wasting Diseases. Premature Birth	3				3												3
Congenital Defects ... (See Notes to Table IV.)																	
Injury at Birth																	
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation																	
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus									1								1
iv. Tuberculous Diseases. Tuberculous Meningitis ... (See Notes to Table IV.)																	
Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
Other Tuberculous Diseases (See Notes to Table IV.)																	
v. Other Causes. Erysipelas																	
Syphilis																	
Rickets																	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
Convulsions	1				1												1
Bronchitis...				1	1					1				1	1		4
Laryngitis...																	
Pneumonia																	
Suffocation, overlying ...																	
Other Causes						3						2	1	1			7
	4			1	5	3			1	1		2	1	1	1	1	16

District (or sub-division) of Wellington Rural

Population. Estimated to middle of 1907 6244

Births in the year { legitimate No return / illegitimate as to this

Deaths in the year of { legitimate infants / illegitimate infants } 16

Deaths from **all Causes at all Ages** 94

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WELLS.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR 1907.

STREET, SOMERSET,
JANUARY 29th, 1908.

To the Rural District Council of Wells.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1907.

Area. 58045 acres.

Population. Census 1901—10767. Estimated to the middle of 1907 at 10374.

Geology. Dolomitic Conglomerate at Chewton Mendip and Westbury; Mountain Limestone at Priddy; Red Marl at Dinder, North Wootton and Rodney Stoke; Red Marl and River Gravel at Wookey; lower lias at West Pennard, Baltonsborough, Butleigh and Walton; alluvium and peat at Glastonbury Moor.

Occupation. Chiefly agricultural, cheese and cider making, Dairy farming, paper factories at Wookey and Wookey Hole; lead mines at Priddy. Some of the inhabitants at Butleigh and Walton work at the shoe, leather and skin factories at Street and Glastonbury, and at the quarries at Street.

Birth Rate. 209 births registered (112 males, 97 Females); giving a birth rate of 20.14 per 1000 per annum. Of these, six were illegitimate (five males one female).

Death Rate. 209 deaths registered (100 males and 109 females) giving a death rate of 20.14 per 1000 per annum.

90 deaths occurred in the Somerset and Bath County Asylum at Wells. Deducting these, the *corrected death rate* for the Rural District is 11.47 per 1000 per annum.

Zymotic Death Rate. Five deaths were registered from Zymotic disease, giving a *Zymotic rate* of 0.48 per 1000 living.

Infant Mortality. The Infant Mortality per 1000 births is 62.2; 13 deaths under one year being registered.

FOR THE YEAR 1906.

Birth Rate.	Birth rate	per 1000 living	21.07
Death Rate.	Death rate	,, ,, ...	20.6
Corrected Death Rate.	Corrected Death rate ..	,, ,, ...	10.9
Zymotic Death Rate.	Zymotic Death rate ..	,, ,, ...	0.28
Infant Mortality.	Infant Mortality per 1000 births ..	.. .. ..	77.2

Water Supply. With regard to the water supply of the district, the remarks in my Report for 1906 are equally applicable for the present year.

The supply for the districts of Butleigh, Chewton Mendip, Dinder, Priddy, Rodney Stoke, part of West Pennard, Godney, part of Polsham, Wookey Hole, Baltonsborough and Horrington is ample in quantity and of good quality. The Glastonbury, Street, and Shepton Mallet Councils' Supplies contributing—respectively—their portion to several of these villages. Could the North Wootton district share with West Pennard the advantage secured from the Glastonbury Supply, a decided boon would be conferred in this locality, the water supply of which is not satisfactory.

Meare is dependent mostly on shallow wells, and in some instances on the river. I must again refer to the Meareway and Ashcott corner localities, and to the liability of the wells in the former district to pollution and the supply of the latter being drawn from the ditches and the rhine.

Part of the Westbury district is well supplied. Walton is dependent on wells which in dry weather soon become exhausted.

Sharpham derives its supply from rain-water tanks, the ditches and the canal. A stand-pipe from the Street Urban District Council's main erected in this district—as previously suggested, is feasible and would be of great service to the residents here.

I have examined a number of samples of well water during the year.

Sewerage and Drainage.

No general system of drainage exists in the district. Privies with cesspits are principally in use and being emptied infrequently and at times draining into an adjoining watercourse are a source of danger. The system of earth-closets is encouraged and where practicable is being increasingly carried out.

Wells Sewage Works. The pollution of the stream into which the Wells Sewage Works discharges its effluent, and methods for the successful treatment of the sewage and the dealing with the large quantity of storm water which at times comes through the tanks, are still under consideration.

An enquiry has been held by a Local Government Board Inspector relative to the application of the Wells City Council for permission to raise a loan to enable them to carry out a scheme for dealing with this matter. This, it is to be hoped, will be successfully accomplished—before long—to the satisfaction of the R.D. Council.

Prevalence of Disease.

Thirty-nine cases of Scarlatina have been notified during the year: eleven from the Wells Out District; two from Westbury; nineteen from Wookey; one from Chewton Mendip; one from Dinder; five from North Wootton. In connection therewith, the Schools at North Wootton, Wookey, Easton, and Henton, were closed for a period.

Four cases of Diphtheria have been notified: two at Rodney Stoke; one at Chewton Mendip, and one at Meare.

Nine cases of Enteric Fever were notified: two in the Wells Out district and six from the Wookey parish.

Two cases of Erysipelas have been notified: one in the Wells Out St. Cuthbert district and one at Butleigh.

The various premises in each case have been visited by the Inspector of Nuisances, and in most instances by myself; and the necessary notices for isolation and disinfection given, and as far as possible, isolation has been effected:—disinfection of the various premises being carried out by the Inspector of Nuisances afterwards.

The total number of cases notified during the year is fifty-four, against twenty-seven for 1906.

In May, owing to the prevalence of Measles, the schools at Butleigh and Wookey were closed. Owing to the prevalence of Measles at Coxley the School here was also closed. In June, Measles being prevalent at Easton, this School was closed. In July, the Wesleyan Day School at West Pennard was closed owing to the prevalence of Whooping-Cough, and in October, the Church School in the same district was closed for the same disease. In October, a number of cases of Scabies in Children occurred at Westbury; in consequence of which the School was closed for a period.

Recent legislation includes the "Notification of Births Act" and the "Medical Inspection of Children in the Public Elementary Schools," the former being permissive, has not been adopted by this Council. It is to be hoped that the carrying out of the latter—being compulsory—will result in all that appertains to the health of the children of the district being improved.

Table of Births.

The Births in the District were distributed as follows:—

Wells Out	70	North Wootton	6
Westbury	9	Sharpham	2
Rodney Stoke	12	Meare	19
Wookey	24	Godney	7
Priddy	4	Walton	14
Chewton Méndip	18	Butleigh	6
Baltonsborough	7	West Pennard	9
Dinder	3		

Table of Deaths.

Ages Table of Deaths:

Uuder 1 year there were 13 deaths.
1 and under 5 years there were 9 deaths.
5 „ „ 15 „ „ „ 3 „
15 „ „ 25 „ „ „ 11 „
25 „ „ 65 „ „ „ 82 „
65 and upwards „ „ 91 „

In addition, three deaths of residents were registered outside the district.

The Deaths were distributed in the following Districts:—

Wells Out	32	Meare	12
Westbury	5	Godney	6
Rodney Stoke	13	North Wootton	2
Wookey	15	West Pennard	12
Priddy	1	Walton	6
Chewton Mendip	9	Sharpham	1
Baltonsborough	3	Lunatic Asylum	90
Butleigh	2		

No death registered from Dinder.

Isolation Hospital. None. Cottages at Worminster are retained by the Council for the isolation of Small-pox, should any case arise Its inaccessibility however precludes its use for general isolation purposes.

Housing of the Working Classes. Visits paid with the Inspectors of Nuisances. Several cases of overcrowding dealt with.

Dairies.—Cowsheds and Milkshops. No systematic inspection has been made, no register being kept. A resolution however has been passed by the R.D. Council for the preparation of a register.

Should any disease under the Notification Act be reported from premises which would come under this heading, the dairies are, and have been, inspected; water supply examined; and directions given for the removal of the milk from the infected premises, and all persons concerned in the dairy supply forbidden contact with the infected person or nurse; and notice given for the correction of any insanitary conditions found, the same being reported to the Council.

General Inspections. Slaughter-houses, Bake-houses, and Public Schools visited and inspected.

Disinfection Means. Fumigation by sulphur candles. Disinfectants are supplied gratuitously by the R.D. Council.

Bye-Laws. None. A suitable code required.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901. Inspections have been made under this Act by the Inspectors of Nuisances and myself. Registers of Workshops are kept and the various Factories and Workshops and Homeworkers premises visited. The sanitation, ventilation, means of escape in case of fire, and the provision of suitable sanitary conveniences attended to.

Factories inspected	16	Workshops	63
Bake-houses	12	Work-places	43

I append the Tables of Statistics as required by the Local Government Board together with Reports from the Inspectors of Nuisances, to whose co-operation I am again greatly indebted.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE W. EGLINTON.

Reports and Summary of Inspectors of Nuisances.

No. 1 DISTRICT.

Inspector of Nuisances Summary for the year ended 31st December, 1907.

The following is a summary of the cases reported by me to the Council, and dealt with by order :—

	No. of Cases.
Dwelling houses with insufficient privy accommodation	7
Dwelling houses overcrowded	5
Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation, Notices served, houses done up or closed ...	4
Infected dwellings : Occupiers served with notice as to isolation of patients, disinfection, &c. (Disinfectants supplied by the Council)	26
Dwellings and clothing disinfected as directed by the Medical Officer of Health ...	26
Public School premises disinfected as directed by the Medical Officer of Health ...	7
New dwellings erected for which certificates of occupation have been granted by the Council	7
Dilapidated and dangerous buildings repaired	8
Dilapidated and dangerous privies repaired	36
Nuisances arising from foul and choked drains, foul accumulations, &c.	50
Animals kept in such a state as to be a nuisance	2
New sewers laid and old ones repaired	2
New drains laid and old ones repaired	10
Slaughter houses, bake houses, and public schools inspected (no bye-laws in force) ...	26
Pollution of stream dealt with	1
Samples of water submitted to the Medical Officer of Health	4
Open wells covered and protected from surface pollution	3
Formal notices served by the Inspector	120

Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.

There are registered in the District : 9 Factories, 30 Workshops, 43 Workplaces, 7 Bake houses, 1 Outworker, total 90

All these have been visited during the year, and are in a fairly clean and satisfactory sanitary condition.

During the year, I have made a house-to-house inspection of the parish of Rodney Stoke, in which there are 168 inhabited houses ; also of the hamlet of Easton, in the parish of Out St. Cuthbert, in which there are 72 inhabited houses, and presented a detailed report thereon to the Council.

In addition to the above, a large number of inspections have been made in my rounds and visits, and verbal notice given to abate nuisances.

PHILIP WILLIAMS, *Inspector No. 1 District.*

No. 2 DISTRICT.

Inspector of Nuisances Summary for the year ended 31st December, 1907.

The following is a summary of cases reported to the Council, and dealt with by order :—

	No. of cases.
Common sewers extended and repaired	6
New drains laid and old ones repaired	12
New privies and conversions into dry earth closets	14
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	1
Nuisances arising from foul accumulations, &c., &c.	12
Dilapidated and dirty dwellings repaired and cleansed	2
Overcrowded dwellings	5
Certificate for occupation of new dwelling	1
Infected dwellings : Occupiers served with notices as to isolation of patient, and disinfection of dwelling	6
Dwellings and clothing disinfected by the Inspector as directed by the Medical Officer of Health	6
Public schools disinfected	2
Slaughter houses and offices of public school inspected	15
Factories and Workshops	33
Bake houses	5
Dwellings where "homeworkers" are employed	24
Pollutions of stream	3
Notices to owners to lay on water supplies	13
Formal notices served by the Inspector	55

In addition to the above, a large number of inspections and re-inspections have been made, and verbal notices given by me in my rounds and periodical inspections as well as rendering assistance in connection with the water supplies in the district.

I have also, during the year, made a special inspection of the parishes of Baltonsborough, North Wootton, and Godney, under the provisions of Sec. 32 of the "Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890."

EDWIN H. PADFIELD, *Inspector No. 2 District.*